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Letter dated 20 May 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour, in the capacity of Ethiopia as the current Chairperson of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), to request you to bring the enclosed communiqué of the thirty-third extraordinary session of the IGAD Council of Ministers on the security and political situation in Somalia, issued on 20 May 2009 (see annex), to the attention of the members of the Council.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Negash **Kebret**
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex to the letter dated 20 May 2009 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ethiopia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the thirty-third extraordinary session of the IGAD Council of Ministers on the security and political situation in Somalia, Addis Ababa, 20 May 2009

The thirty-third extraordinary session of the IGAD Council of Ministers was convened at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 20 May 2009 to discuss the developments in Somalia since the thirty-second extraordinary session held on 27 January 2009 and to chart the way forward. The Council was chaired by H.E. Seyoum Mesfin, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and current Chairperson of the IGAD Council of Ministers. The Council received briefs from the Somali delegation and the IGAD Facilitator for Somalia Peace and Reconciliation. The meeting was attended by H.E. Mahamoud Ali Youssouf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Djibouti; H.E. Moses Wetangula, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya; H.E. Sherif Hassan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia; H.E. Elsamani Elwasila, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Sudan; H.E. Sam Kutesa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Uganda; H.E. Mahboub M. Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD; and H.E. Kipruto arap Kirwa, IGAD Facilitator for Somalia Peace and Reconciliation.

The meeting was also attended by H.E. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission; H.E. Ahmedou Ould Abdallah, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to Somalia; H.E. Raffaele de Lutio, Ambassador of the Republic of Italy and Chair of the IGAD Partners Forum; and H.E. Ahmed Salah-Eldin Noah, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the League of Arab States to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa.

After deliberating at length on the prevailing political and security situation in Somalia, the Council:

1. **Notes** with grave concern the current aggression in Somalia that has resulted in hundreds of deaths and the displacement of thousands of people, which has partly been exacerbated by an influx of foreign armed aggressors into Somalia.

2. **Recognizes** the fact that the assailants have used the porous borders of Somalia especially the airports at KM 50 and KM 90 to receive supplies of arms and ammunition, and personnel from their foreign backers, in this regard **calls upon** the United Nations Security Council to impose a no-fly zone, except for humanitarian purposes authorized by the Government, on the airports of Kismayo, Baidoa, KM 50, Balidoogle, Waajid, Hudur, all airports in Gedo Region, Isaley and Johwar.

3. **Calls upon** the Security Council to impose a blockade on seaports particularly Kismayo and Merka to prevent the further in-flow of arms and foreign fighters, in this regard **urges** the Security Council to reach

out to the international naval forces present in the region to enforce the blockade.

4. **Condemns** the acts of destructive forces, in particular Al Shabaab and Hizbul Islam (Islamic Party), and other such groups and warlords who continue to wage destructive wars in Somalia.

5. **Condemns also** in the strongest terms possible all the individuals, organizations and countries, in particular the Government of Eritrea and its financiers, who continue to instigate, recruit, train, fund and supply the criminal elements in and/or to Somalia.

6. **Condemns further** acts of the Government of Eritrea calling for the overthrow of the Transitional Federal Government and attacks on the African Union Mission in the Sudan which are acts of aggression against a sovereign country and legitimate government and forces, and **calls upon** the Security Council to impose sanctions on the Government of Eritrea without any further delay.

7. **Reaffirms** its commitment to ensure support through all necessary means for the Transitional Federal Government and the formation of its institutions and **reiterates** the fact that it is only rebuilding through recruiting, training and equipping of the Somali security forces that will ensure the long-term stability of Somalia, and in this connection affirms the readiness of the member States to provide all the necessary assistance, which will be an added impetus against the war on piracy.

8. **Welcomes** the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union as contained in the communiqué issued on 11 March 2009 to extend the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) for a further three months beginning on 17 March 2009, and **calls** on the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to renew the mandate of AMISOM at its expiry and to strengthen the said mandate and rules of engagement of the mission.

9. **Welcomes further** the establishment of a United Nations Trust Fund to provide support to AMISOM as envisaged by Security Council resolution 1863 (2009) of 16 January 2009, and **requests** its immediate implementation.

10. **Expresses appreciation** to all the countries and organizations that made pledges in cash and in kind in support of the Somalia security institutions and AMISOM at the International Pledging Conference held in Brussels on 22 and 23 April 2009, and **calls** for the speedy disbursement of pledges and the coordination of efforts and resources in the rebuilding of the Somalia security institutions.

11. **Notes** that the Security Council arms embargo does not apply to the Transitional Federal Government.

12. **Expresses appreciation** to the troop-contributing countries to AMISOM, namely Uganda and Burundi, for the sacrifices they continue to make to advance the cause of peace and stability in Somalia, **welcomes** the announcement by the Government of Sierra Leone that it will be contributing a battalion of troops to AMISOM as well as pledges made

by Nigeria and Ghana and other African Union member States towards the same endeavour, and **urges** all the other countries that have pledged to contribute troops towards AMISOM to deploy their troops without further delay.

13. **Further expresses appreciation** to all the countries that have pledged to help rebuild Somalia's security institutions in particular the Governments of IGAD member States and others for providing training to the Somali security forces.

14. **Calls** for an urgent special appeal to the international community for the provision of humanitarian assistance to the suffering Somali people, and **urges** the countries neighbouring Somalia to provide safe corridors so that the humanitarian assistance can be delivered to those in need.

15. **Notes with concern** the United Nations Secretary-General's report on Somalia (S/2009/210) of 16 April 2009 to the Security Council, in particular paragraphs 75-80 (Engagement with no international security presence (option D)), and **reiterates** that the Security Council cannot abrogate its obligation to deploy a United Nations peacekeeping force in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the deployment plans already drawn.

16. **Stresses** the need for close cooperation and effective partnership between UNPOS, IGAD, the African Union and the League of Arab States in dealing with the Somalia issues, and reiterates its call for coordinated efforts between the three institutions.

17. **Notes further** with concern the lack of payment of stipends to the Somalia Police Force and high level of unemployment among Somalia youth, and **calls** upon the United Nations Development Programme to punctually effect payments to the Somalia Police Force without any further delay as well as setting up job creation programmes for the Somalia youth.

18. **Notes** the proposed action plan for intervention in Somalia by the IGAD Facilitator for Somalia Peace and Reconciliation entitled: "Proposal on Re-establishing Effective Government Institutions in Somalia", and **directs** the Secretariat to review and resubmit it as an agenda item of the thirty-third ordinary Council for further discussion.

19. **Commends** the international community and regional efforts against piracy in and around the waters of Somalia, **takes note** of the report by the IGAD Capacity-building Programme against Terrorism to fight piracy along the territorial waters of Somalia and **directs** the Secretariat to submit it as an agenda item to the thirty-third ordinary Council for further discussion.

20. **Reaffirms** its continued support to the Transitional Federal Government and its institutions and further undertakes **not to** host armed subversive elements against member States.

21. **Welcomes** the relocation of the Transitional Federal Institutions to Mogadishu and their commencing of the task of providing leadership for the country.

22. **Recognizes** with appreciation the efforts of those Somali elders, business community, civil society, Somalia diaspora and religious leaders to end the conflicts in Somalia, and **urges** the Transitional Federal Government to harness these efforts.

23. **Notes** with appreciation the presence of the African Union through AMISOM and the League of Arab States in Somalia, and **calls upon** IGAD and the United Nations to establish their presence and operation in Somalia.

24. **Reiterates** its earlier decision to take the necessary action to impose targeted sanctions including travel bans, freezing of assets among others, against all those in and outside Somalia who have become obstacles to the achievement of peace in Somalia, and **calls upon** the African Union and the Security Council to do the same.

25. **Thanks** the Government and people of Ethiopia for hosting the Council meeting.

26. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.